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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/687,283

10/15/2003

Homer Antoniadis

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EXAMINER

A, MINH D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2821

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

02/26/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/687,283

Applicant(s)

HOMER ANTONIADIS

Examiner

Minh D A

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 December 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 33-40, 44-50, 54-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 33,34,36,39,40,44-50 and 54-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 35,37 and 38 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a response to the Applicant's filing on 10/15/03. In virtue of this filing, claims 33-40, 44-50, 54-60 are currently presented in the instant applicant.

Applicant's communication filed on 12/06/06 has been carefully considered by the examiner. The arguments advanced therein are persuasive with respect to the rejection of record, and those rejection are accordingly withdrawn. In view of a further consideration, however, a new rejection is set forth below. This action is not made final.

Drawings Objection

2. The drawings 1-2 are objected to because, while the drawings do not show the first electrode and second electrode are aligned in the first direction. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification Objections

3. The specification of the disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The disclosure is objected as being incomprehensible as to preclude a reasonable search of the prior art by the examiner. For example, the following items are not understood: **the first electrode and second electrode are aligned in the first direction**

Applicant is required to submit an amendment which clarifies the disclosure so that the examiner may make a proper comparison of the invention with the prior art.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claims 33-40, 44-50, 54-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding independent claims 33, 54 and 59, the phrase "**the first electrode and second electrode are aligned in the first direction**" renders the claims indefinite because they are unclear whether the limitation(s) following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 33-35, 39-40, 45, 46, 49-60 are rejected the best understood under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Clark et al. (US 2003/0010892).

Regarding Claim 33, Clark discloses an OLED light source comprising: a substrate (600); a first electrode formed onto said substrate; one or more organic electroluminescent active layers formed on said first electrode (605); a second electrode (635) on said one or more organic electroluminescent active layers (610 and 630), wherein at least one of said first or second electrode is patterned into individually

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addressed segments; a driver circuit (701,706 and 711) electrically connected to said segments and further wherein said segments are controlled by the driver circuit such that the chromaticity of the light output from said light source is selectable to create a desired ambient light source, wherein each of said plurality of individually addressed segments has a length significantly greater than its width. See figures 6-15, col.1, lines [0003] to col.5, lines [0058] to [0061].

Regarding claim 34, Clark discloses wherein said substrate (600) comprises transparent glass. See col.3, lines [0031] to [0031].

Regarding claims 39-40, Clark discloses the first electrode is the anode and said second electrode is the cathode and said first electrode is the cathode and said second electrode is the anode and said first electrode is patterned and said second electrode is a shared continuous electrode and the second electrode is patterned and said first electrode is a shared continuous electrode. See figures 6-15, col.1, lines [0003] to col.5, lines [0058] to [0061].

Regarding claims 45-46, Clark discloses said one or more organic electroluminescent active layers comprises one of a group, said group comprising small organic molecules, organic-metallic molecules, conjugated polymers and small molecule dispersions. See col.3, lines [0031] to [0031].

Regarding claim 49, Clark discloses wherein each of said segments has a linear shape. See figure 6.

Regarding claim 50, Clark discloses each of said segments extends the full active area of said OLED light source. Figures 6-15.

Regarding claim 54, Clark discloses said light source comprising separately addressable active segments, said segments comprising RG13 lines, a controller for selectively driving each segment; a method for controlling the output light from said light source, the steps of said method comprising: inputting color information to said controller; driving said segments according to said input color information such that the output light from said light source correlates to said input color information, wherein each of said segments has a length significantly greater than its width. See figures 6-15, col.1.1, lines [0003] to col.5, lines [0058] to [0068].

Regarding claim 55, Clark discloses wherein said step of inputting color information further comprises inputting color information from a user. See figures 6-15.

Regarding claim 56, Clark discloses wherein said step of inputting color information further comprises inputting color information from a light sensor. See figures 6-15.

Regarding claim 57, Clark discloses wherein said step of driving said segments further comprises separately driving groups of red segments, groups of green segments, and groups of blue segments in said light source. See figures 6-15.

Regarding claim 58, Clark discloses wherein said step of driving said segments further comprises separately driving separate regions of said light source. See figures 6-15.

Regarding claim 59, Clark discloses a fault-tolerant OLED light source comprising: a plurality of independently addressable light segments; each said segments electrically isolated from other said segments such that an electrical short in

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one of said segments does not short any other light segment; and a controller driving said plurality of light segments, wherein each of said plurality of light segments has a length significantly greater than its width. See figures 6-15, co1.1, lines [0003] to co1.5, lines [0058] to [0061].

Regarding claim 60, Clark discloses wherein the current flowing to each said segment is limited from said controller such that a short in one segment does not short the entire light source. See figures 6-12.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 36, 44, 47-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Clark et al (US 2003/0010892).

Regarding claims 36, 44, 47-48, Clark essentially discloses the claimed invention but does not explicitly disclose that, a first electrode comprises ITO and one or more organic electroluminescent active layers is deposited by one of the group, said group comprising ink jet printing, screen printing, off-set printing, electrostatic printing, gravure printing, flexible graphic printing, laser-induced and thermally induced transfer printing, and shadow stencil masking and driver circuit is electrically connected to said segment by a control line wherein said Control line is current limited.

It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to employ Clark in any desired interest material and current limited such as lone or more organic electroluminescent active layers is deposited by one of the group, said group comprising ink jet printing, screen printing, off-set printing, electrostatic printing, gravure printing, flexible graphic printing, laser-induced and thermally induced transfer printing, and shadow stencil masking and driver circuit is electrically connected to said segment by a control line wherein said control line is current limited in order to maximize the usage of his invention, since applicant does not disclose that, all of these limitations can solve any stated problem and for any particular purpose. Therefore, it appears that the invention would not provide any improvement but merely apply the invention in different presentation.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 35, 37-38 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not teach that, the substrate comprises one of a group, said group comprising a flexible plastic transparent material, a flexible metal foil, a flexible metalized plastic foil, a plastic foil comprising a conducting polymer layer as the conductor and a plastic foil comprising a conducting polymer layer with metal bus bars as the conductor layer recited in dependent claims 35, 37-38.

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Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Waiters et al (US 5,895,986) and Yamashita et al. (US 6,087,776) are cited to show a lighting control system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Minh A whose telephone number is (571) 272-1817. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30 AM -2:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Owens Douglas W can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1553.

Examiner

Minh A

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shih-chao chen
SHIH-CHAO CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER